Dear Diane,

The mission of the Greater New England Minority Supplier Development Council is to significantly increase business relationships between our corporate members and our certified MBEs. We believe that minority business development is a key component of reducing poverty, unemployment, increasing wealth, and integrating American society. You are receiving this email in order to keep you abreast of developments with the Greater New England Minority Supplier Development Council, Supplier Diversity Issues and Minority Business Development. If you like what you read please share internally and externally.

Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker to speak at 2015 GNEMSDC Awards Gala

We are very pleased to announce that Commonwealth of Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker will be the Keynote Speaker at the 2015 GNEMSDC Awards Gala. This is a great opportunity for the GNEMSDC to meet the new Governor of the largest state in our region, and for the new Governor to learn more about our wonderful network.

"Charlie Baker was inaugurated on January 8th, 2015 as the 72nd Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Elected in November of 2014 on a platform of making Massachusetts great for everyone, Governor Baker's arrival in the Corner Office continues a long, successful career in both the private sector and public service where he has worked hard to put the people of Massachusetts first.

Governor Baker is committed to making Massachusetts a truly great place to live, work, start a business and raise a family. As Governor, he has pledged to work toward a growing economy with family-sustaining jobs; ensure that schools across the Commonwealth provide opportunity for every child regardless of zip code; and make Beacon Hill a true partner with our local governments to create safer and thriving communities across Massachusetts.

Over the course of his career, Governor Baker has been a highly successful leader of complex organizations in business and in government. As a cabinet secretary under Governors William Weld and Paul Cellucci, Baker helped lead efforts to reform and modernize state government. During his time as Chief Executive Officer of Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, Baker turned a company on the brink of bankruptcy into the nation’s highest ranked health care provider for six straight years."

Joset Wright-Lacy to Receive 2015 President’s Award
Mrs. Joset Wright-Lacy, President of the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC) will receive the 2015 President's Award at the 2015 Awards Gala on April 11 at the Boston Convention and Exposition Center.

Mrs. Wright-Lacy is being honored for her wise leadership of the NMSDC through the most significant organizational change in the organization's history. Under Mrs. Wright-Lacy's leadership, regional councils have taken on more territory, and increased their capacity to meet the needs of corporate members and MBEs. Mrs. Wright-Lacy has also brought greater consistency across the network of 24 regional councils for the benefit of both certified MBEs and corporate members.

“I am honored to present the 2015 President's Award to Mrs. Joset Wright-Lacy.” (See Press Release.)

Honorary and Committee Gala Co-Chairs Announced

We are very pleased to announce that Joe Black, the Chief Procurement Officer at Aetna and Dr. Ramesh Wadhwani of SAI Systems will serve as the Corporate & MBE Honorary Gala Chairs, respectively.

Rose Hatcher of Aetna and Lori Johnson (pictured at the left) of commVerge Marketing are serving as Corporate & MBE Gala Committee Co-Chairs, respectively.

This great team is working hard to make this an incredibly successful night. Be sure to thank them when you see them on April 11th for their service!

GNEMSDC 40th Gala Award Corporation Member and MBE Nominees

**MBE to MBE Empowerment**
Arvin Chaudhary, Nadicent Technologies, LLC
Ted Hsu, Horizon Services Company
Ramesh Wadhwani, SAI Systems International, Inc.

**Buyer of the Year**
Greg Zifcak - DTZ
Ninos Hanna - Federal Reserve Bank of Boston
Jack Lemley - UTRC
Janice Beckner - Connecticut Lottery Corporation
Panos Lapatas - United Rentals
Al Tawrel - Eversource

**Advocate of the Year**
Bob Pilney - The Hartford
Carole Sears - Federal Reserve Bank of Boston
Jay Sheldon Wesley - Pitney Bowes, Inc.
Carla Hunter-Ramsey - National Grid
Alton Moss - Pratt and Whitney
Francisco Vasquez - Eversource
Joan Davidson - UTC Aerospace Systems
David Walsh - St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center

**Corporation of the Year - Local**
Access Health CT
Citizens Bank
Connecticut Lottery Corporation
Eversource
Harvard Pilgrim Health Care
PerkinElmer
Pratt & Whitney
Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center
Travelers
Yale New Haven Health System

Corporation of the Year - National
Aetna
Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals
CVS Health
Pitney Bowes
State Street Corporation

Category 1
Yumi EcoSolutions, Inc.
Soltrix Technology Solutions, Inc.

Category 2
GBG - The Corporate Gift Source, Inc.
Charter Oak Building Maintenance, Inc.
Kool Ink, LLC - Sir Speedy Printing of Bloomfield
CDP Fastener Group, Inc.

Category 3
SAI Systems International, Inc.
Roxbury Technology Corporation
Total Clerical Services, Inc.
C&D Electronics, Inc.

Category 4
Worldcom Exchange, Inc.

5 Days Until the GNEMSDC 2015 Awards Gala

April 11, 2015 - GNEMSDC 40th Award Gala
Over 600 MBEs and Corporate Members will come together for one night to celebrate the hard work and dedication of our nominees.

Register: http://gala.gnemsdc.org

Click on the link below to book your hotel!
https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/events/start.action?id=1502240858&key=966126A

GNEMSDC 2015 Eds, Meds & Pharma Symposium
New England is home to some of the strongest higher educational institutions, hospitals and pharmaceutical companies in the world. The "Eds, Meds, and Pharma" Supplier Diversity Conference is designed to bring leaders in these industries together with our certified MBEs to explore opportunities and learn how these growing and unique industries are changing.

Attendees will include procurement and supplier diversity professionals from the three industries and minority business enterprises. If you are a diverse business owner, you will want to attend this conference.

During this interactive event you will learn about new perspectives in Supplier Diversity, procurement, and how to do business with the top industries of the Greater New England region.

_Bridgeport Hospital, Emerson College, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, Medtronic, M.I.T., Northeastern University, Partners Healthcare, SAI Systems International, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Sanofi, Takeda Pharmaceuticals International, Yale New Haven Health System... and many more will be part of this exciting symposium._

Register: [http://emps.gnemsdc.org](http://emps.gnemsdc.org)

Sign up for the Awards Gala and receive FREE entry into the Eds, Meds, & Pharma Symposium. (This event is valued at $75)

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**Eds, Meds & Pharma Symposium: Keynote Speaker Introduction**

William M. Jennings was appointed President & Chief Executive Officer of Bridgeport Hospital and Executive Vice President of Yale New Haven Health System, effective October 1, 2010.

Prior to joining YNHHS, Bill served as the President & Chief Executive Officer of SSM St. Mary's Health Center, a 582-bed urban teaching hospital in St. Louis, Missouri, and President of the SSM St. Louis Heart Institute, both of which are part of the $2.6 billion SSM Health Care System. During his tenure there, the hospital markedly improved patient and physician satisfaction, increased community engagement and enhanced financial performance. In 2008, St. Mary's was the recipient of the Premier National Quality Leader award.

Prior to St. Mary's, Bill served for seven years as the Administrator and Chief Operating Officer at Morton Plant North Bay Hospital, part of the $1.5 billion BayCare Health System on Florida's west coast. There he enhanced patient care quality, improved patient satisfaction, reduced length of stay and achieved positive financial performance in an extremely competitive market.

Bill serves on the Board of the Bridgeport Regional Business Council, the Diversified Network Services Board of the Connecticut Hospital Association and the Board of Central Connecticut Coast YMCA.

Bill earned his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Miami University in Ohio and a Master of Health Administration degree from The Ohio State University. In 2012 he was elected, and remains, the Regent for Connecticut with the American College of Healthcare Executives. He and his wife, Kristin, have two children, Sarah and Mason.

We are honored that William Jennings will be the KeyNote Speaker at the GNEMSDC Eds, MEds & Pharma Symposium. The event will take place on April 10th, 2015 at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center.
GNEMSDC President and CEO
Job Posting

Use your leadership skills to take GNEMSDC to the next level. We are currently seeking a President/CEO to lead the execution of the organization's vision and mission. For the full job description and resume submittal instructions please click here. Resumes must be submitted by April 30, 2015.

And Finally...

It was 1966 and the Temptations had one of their hottest songs ever, Ain’t Too Proud to Beg. "If I have to beg and plead for your sympathy, I don't mind, cause you mean that much to me." Well I am not to proud to ask the MBEs and corporate members who we have supported over the years to support us by purchasing a table, a ticket, or simply making a donation to our 40th Anniversary Awards Gala on Saturday, April 11 at the Boston Convention and Exposition Center. This year we are particularly fortunate to have as special guests and speakers, the Honorable Governor Charlie Baker from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Jost Wright-Lacy, President and CEO of the NMSDC. I am also proud to announce that President and CEO from the Canadian Aboriginal and Minority Supplier Council, Cassandra Dorrington will be joining us as well. But we have over 550 guest signed up for the event which surpasses our very successful Gala we held in Boston two years ago. We would love to have you as a guest as well. So I ain't too proud to beg, come out - have some fun - meet some great business contacts - promote your business - and support the organization that fights for your success. We need your support.

I could very easily have left this column completed with the one paragraph above, but there is something even more important than simply asking for your support. This will be my final And Finally. This column has been a 14-year story. I think about the story the Gala might provide in your personal and business narrative. We write the story of our lives, our struggles and our triumphs, in the relationships we build. This coming Saturday night will be the end of the story for me at the GNEMSDC as the President and CEO. No matter how many or how few people actually attend the Gala; no matter how little or how much money the Gala makes for the GNEMSDC, my story ends well because of the people like you. I have had the honor of serving you these past 14 years. Fourteen years from now, people will most likely have forgotten much of what we accomplished during this past 14 years, but for those of you who have run this race next to me, you too have quite a story. Against great odds, you have overcome obstacles that would make most shrink in fear. You have demonstrated great courage and humanity. You have brought great honor and joy to many. Some may forget, but I will never forget. Thank you.

In your service,

Dr. Fred